

REMARKS

The present amendment and response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2006 in which the Examiner rejects claims 21-40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

In response, Applicant amends independent claims 21 and 30 and dependent claim 23. Applicant respectfully asserts that the now pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art as discussed below, and respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance for the now pending claims.

A. Rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner rejects claims 21-40 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka (U.S. Publication No. 2006/0030375) in view of Hama (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0045467). In response, Applicant amends Independent claims 21 and 30 to include the limitation of "the number keypad *consisting of* a single aligned row of at least ten depressible input keys numbered from 0 through 9." The claimed inventions of independent claims 21 and 30 are drawn to the embodiment illustrated in Figures 2a, 2b and 2c of Applicant's application. The use of the words "consisting of" limits the claimed invention to a number keypad that consists of *a single aligned row of at least ten keys numbered from 0 through 9*. The cited references do not teach or suggest this element of the claimed inventions.

Regarding claim 21 and 30, the Examiner cites Tanaka as having a number keypad disposed on the first side face comprising at least ten depressible keys (citing figures 4,7,9,15-18,24-27,29,36-41). As shown in Tanaka's Figures 12, 13,, 14, 26, 29, etc., Tanaka mandates multiples rows of keys, and the numbered keys 0-9 are not aligned in a single row of keys. For example, as shown in Figure 13, although the number keypads reside on a single face of the phone, they are split up among two rows. Regarding claim 23, the Examiner asserts that the at least ten depressible input keys are linearly aligned on the side face. This is clearly incorrect because Applicant is claiming input keys numbered from 0-9 that are linearly aligned. As discussed above, Tanaka does not teach or suggest this embodiment. Further, with the current amendments, the claimed inventions are limited to a single row of keys on the side face

in contrast to Tanaka which discloses multiple rows, thus, Applicant traverses the Examiner's statements of obviousness on pages 5 and 7.

In the conclusion paragraph, the Examiner cites the Sony reference (JP2001-265490), the Shkolnikov Patent (US6947028), the Gambaro Patent (US5332322), and the Baratono Patent (US6889064) as teaching "keys aligned on the side face". As discussed above, these references also do not teach or suggest Applicant's claimed inventions of independent claims 21 and 30.

In view of the amendments present herein, Applicant asserts that the claimed inventions are patentable over the cited references, and respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a notice of allowance for all of the pending claims.

B. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a notice of allowance for the pending claims 21-40 as the cited references do not render the claimed invention obvious. Should the Examiner require further information, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the number listed below.

The fees for a one (1) month extension of time is filed herewith by EFS. The Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) or credit any overpayment(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-3001 of Kyocera Wireless Corp.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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